**American vs British English- some clues:**

**You may decide which variant to use, as long as you are consistent. You cannot mix the two variants. Dictionaries use the abbreviations AE and BE to distinguish them.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **American** | **British** | **Comment** |
| **center** | **centre** | **French inspired –re is not commonly used in AE spelling, except in theatre** |
| **honor** | **honour** | **In AE the u is dropped** |
| **catalog** | **catalogue** | **AE: logue is reduced to log** |
| **license** | **licence** | **BE: -se in the verb, -ce in nouns** |
| **traveled** | **travelled** | **BE: often double l** |
| **moralize** | **moralise** | **The British prefer –ise and – sation to the American- ize and -zation** |
| **Thru maneuver** | **Through manoeuvre** | **AE generally prefer a more simplified spelling to that of the more conservative BE** |
| **Burned, lighted** | **Burnt, lit** | **Irregular verbs in BE may have regular forms in AE** |

**Translate the sentences below. Use a slash to show the difference btw AE and BE like this: color (AE)/colour (BE)**

1. **Han tente på det siste stearinlyset**
2. **den romerske sivilisasjonen var svært avansert**
3. **hunden hoppet gjennom flammene**
4. **presidenten var favoritt i omvalget**
5. **Katalogen solgte dårlig**
6. **Dialogen i boka var kunstig**
7. **Eselet beveget seg ikke en meter**

**Fill in the correct alternative**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **BE or AE?** |  | **BE or AE?** |
| **meter** |  | **Trunk** |  |
| **trousers** |  | **centre** |  |
| **crisps** |  | **thru** |  |
| **eraser** |  | **dialog** |  |
| **honour** |  | **elevator** |  |
| **restroom** |  | **boot** |  |
| **manoeuvre** |  | **queue** |  |
| **catalogue** |  | **petrol** |  |
| **travelling** |  | **color** |  |
| **parcel** |  | **Gas station** |  |

**Formal language vs informal language:**

**Which of these two is the formal one?**

1. **Wherever you go in the world, if you have some understanding of English, you are almost certain to find someone else with whom you can converse**
2. **No matter where you are, English makes it easy for you to be understood. Knowing just a little English, you will find someone to talk to everywhere!**